



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



December 1996

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons Killed	Number of Persons Injured	Estimated Damage Property	Estimated Damage Crops	Character of Storm
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SOUTH DAKOTA, West

SDZ001>002-012>013-024>025-032 **Harding - Perkins - Butte - Meade Co. Plains - Northern Black Hills - Northern Foot Hills - Haakon**

01	2300MST	0	0	Heavy Snow
02	1700MST			

A storm dropped six to 12 inches of snow over northwest South Dakota. The heaviest snow stretched from northeast Butte through northern Meade and Haakon counties. Grand Electric Cooperative lost 268 poles in southern Perkins, Harding, northern Butte and Meade counties. The damage was estimated at \$194,000. Numerous accidents occurred along Interstate 90, none with serious injuries.

SDZ001>002-012>014-024>026-028-031>032 **Harding - Perkins - Butte - Meade Co. Plains - Ziebach - Northern Black Hills - Northern Foot Hills - Central Foot Hills - Central Black Hills - Pennington Plains - Haakon**

14	0400MST	0	0	Blizzard
	1700MST			

A blizzard moved into Northwest South Dakota during the early morning hours and continued through the afternoon. Winds of 30 mph with gusts to 55 mph and snowfall of three to 12 inches resulted in zero visibilities and large snow drifts on roads. On Interstate 90, several semi-trailer trucks were involved in accidents. Two trucks hit each other, two trucks slid into the ditch, and another hit a car before sliding into the ditch. No major injuries were reported.

SDZ001>002-012>014-024>025-031>032 **Harding - Perkins - Butte - Meade Co. Plains - Ziebach - Northern Black Hills - Northern Foot Hills - Pennington Plains - Haakon**

16	0200MST	0	0	Blizzard
17	1800MST			

A two-day blizzard brought two to four inches of snow and wind gusts over 60 mph to Western South Dakota. Numerous traffic accidents were caused by blowing and drifting snow. One vehicle flipped off a bridge on Interstate-90 near Wasta; the driver was hospitalized in critical condition. Forty-four people were rescued from vehicles stranded along roads. Many highways, including the Interstate, were closed. Homes and streets in the Buffalo, Lemmon, and Faith areas were covered by ten foot snow drifts. Numerous livestock were missing after wandering off during the storm.

SDZ013-024-028>029 **Meade Co. Plains - Northern Black Hills - Central Black Hills - Southern Black Hills**

21	0600MST	0	0	Heavy Snow
22	1900MST			

Snow began falling Saturday morning and continued into Sunday afternoon. The heaviest snowfall was across the Black Hills and Meade County with totals ranging from six to nine inches.

SDZ027-029-041-044 **Southern Foot Hills - Southern Black Hills - Fall River Co. - Bennett**

25	0200MST	0	0	Heavy Snow
	1700MST			

Snow fell through the morning hours and into the afternoon on Christmas day. Six to eight inches fell over the southwest corner of South Dakota.

WYOMING, Northeast

WYZ054>058 **Gillette - South Campbell - Moorcroft - Wyoming Black Hills - Weston**

14	0200MST	0	0	Blizzard
	1200MST			

A blizzard moved through Northeast Wyoming during the morning hours. Snowfall of three to 12 inches and winds of 30 mph with gusts near 55 mph caused zero visibilities and snow drifts on roads.

WYZ054>058 **Gillette - South Campbell - Moorcroft - Wyoming Black Hills - Weston**

16	0100MST	0	0	Blizzard
	2300MST			

A blizzard moved into northeast Wyoming during the early morning and ended around midnight. Blowing and drifting snow reduced visibilities to zero, which closed Interstate-90 and other highways. Numerous accidents occurred along the roads, but none



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WYOMING, Northeast

had serious injuries. Wind chill temperatures fell to around 50 below zero.

WYZ054>058

Gillette - South Campbell - Moorcroft - Wyoming Black Hills - Weston

17 0200MST

0

0

Extreme Windchill

18 1700MST

Winds 25 to 40 mph and temperatures near zero resulted in wind chill readings 30 to 50 below zero.